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REUTERS BEST



JULY 23 - 29

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POLITICS - A year and a half into Obamacare, Reuters [offered insight](#) into how public hospitals are faring in states that expanded Medicaid with federal dollars, as the law allows, and those that didn't. In states like Illinois that have opted to accept federal money, some large, public hospitals are finding themselves on solid financial footing for the first time in decades, and formerly uninsured patients are now getting regular care. But in states that did not expand the government medical program for the poor, primarily ones with conservative electorates opposed to Obamacare, the impact of the Affordable Care Act on public hospitals has been negligible.

REUTERS



POLITICS - In a Hillary Clinton vs. Bill Clinton fantasy run-off, Hillary wins, according to a recent [Reuters/Ipsos poll](#). Neither her husband, nor George Clooney, Michelle Obama, Oprah or Al Gore would come close to challenging her polling dominance for the U.S. Democratic presidential nomination. While Republicans wrestle to pick a favorite among 16 candidates, Democratic voters - facing a far smaller field - strongly favor the former first lady and secretary of state, even when presented with a fantasy list of notables.

REUTERS



POLITICS - Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker has made Harley-Davidson motorcycles a centerpiece of his campaign kick-off tour this month, posing on them at presidential campaign stops, with each bearing a sticker on its frame that reads "Union made in the USA." But Reuters [reported](#) on another side to the iconic American brand that the Republican candidate has been less vocal about - it is a leading example of a successful company that has a strong relationship with labor unions. Walker, by contrast, has made his union-busting credentials the foundation of his White House bid.

BUSINESS - After hackers threatened to leak nude photos, sexual fantasies, real names and credit card information for as many as 37 million customers worldwide of AshleyMadison.com,

REUTERS



Reuters [reported](#) that the site's hacking may end Ashley Madison's dreams of listing its shares in London this year and could prove to be disastrous for a company whose business model is based on complete confidentiality. Reuters also [revealed](#) the surprisingly high subscription rates in Ottawa, known as "the city fun forgot." One in five residents of Canada's capital allegedly subscribed to the website, making it the No. 1 city for philanderers in Canada.

REUTERS



JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT - Last week, a Reuters Special Report detailed how Sony sanitized the new Adam Sandler movie "Pixels" to please Chinese censors. The Hollywood studio changed the film for global audiences by removing an attack on the Great Wall as well as other politically sensitive plot points, internal emails show. The goal: increase the film's chances of being shown in the huge China market. The story, by Hong Kong correspondent Clare Baldwin and enterprise reporter Kristina Cooke, was widely cited by press. In a [Reuters Best: Journalist Spotlight Q&A](#), Clare offers a look at the reporting behind the story.

REUTERS



GENERAL - In a Special Report, Reuters [examined](#) the new and fast-growing role West Africa is playing in the global drug trade. Smugglers of Moroccan hashish have long crossed West Africa on their way to Europe or Asia. Over the past decade, the region has also become a major transit point for Latin American cocaine headed to Europe. But local and international officials say West African criminal groups are now producing and exporting hundreds of millions of dollars worth of methamphetamine every year, most of it shipped to Asia.

REUTERS



BUSINESS - Reuters [investigated](#) how Subaru's boom in the United States has been made possible in part by asylum seekers and other cheap laborers from Asia and Africa. The maker of the Forester SUV has won over U.S. drivers with its socially responsible image, but Reuters found another key to success: Its supply chain relies on hundreds of migrant workers who are far cheaper to employ than Japanese laborers. Many of these people are receiving about half the pay of their Japanese equivalents and working in grueling conditions.

REUTERS



GENERAL - Reuters [exclusively reported](#) that the EU agreed to push ahead with the introduction of labels that specifically identify Israeli goods made in settlements in the occupied West Bank, a policy that has angered Israel. Now, an influential European think-tank is proposing going much further, including the targeting of Israeli banks. The goal is to force Israel to decide what sort of relationship it wants with Europe and encourage it to return to talks with the Palestinians on a two-state solution to the conflict.

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